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## Idaho Milk Production Up 8 Percent

Idaho milk production during February 1999 totaled 456 million pounds, up 8 percent from the same month last year but down 10 percent from January 1999. Average milk production per cow in February 1999 was 1,490 pounds, unchanged from February 1998 but down 170 pounds from January 1999. The average number of milk cows in February was 306,000 head, 23,000 more than in February 1998 and up 2,000 from January 1999.

Nationally, February milk production in the 20 major States totaled 10.8 billion pounds, up 4.3 percent from production in these same States in February 1998. January revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds, was up 3.5 percent from January 1998. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,407 pounds for February, 60 pounds above February 1998. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.70 million head, 16,000 head less than February 1998 and 4,000 head less than January 1999.

## Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, February 1998-1999

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		1999 As Percent of 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		
Arizona	130	132	1,660	1,835	216	242	112
California	1,405	1,448	1,480	1,560	2,079	2,259	109
Florida	160	158	1,300	1,335	208	211	101
<b>IDAHO</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>108</b>
Illinois	129	125	1,310	1,310	169	164	97
Indiana	134	136	1,260	1,300	169	177	105
Iowa	224	215	1,320	1,380	296	297	100
Kentucky	143	135	965	970	138	131	95
Michigan	296	301	1,370	1,415	406	426	105
Minnesota	555	545	1,320	1,400	733	763	104
Missouri	175	164	1,090	1,150	191	189	99
New Mexico	216	220	1,480	1,615	320	355	111
New York	698	702	1,280	1,340	893	941	105
Ohio	265	260	1,310	1,340	347	348	100
Pennsylvania	625	615	1,365	1,375	853	846	99
Texas	365	340	1,290	1,400	471	476	101
Vermont	162	162	1,285	1,320	208	214	103
Virginia	125	122	1,175	1,190	147	145	99
Washington	250	248	1,605	1,695	401	420	105
Wisconsin	1,376	1,366	1,255	1,300	1,727	1,776	103
<b>20 STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>7,716</b>	<b>7,700</b>	<b>1,347</b>	<b>1,407</b>	<b>10,394</b>	<b>10,836</b>	<b>104</b>

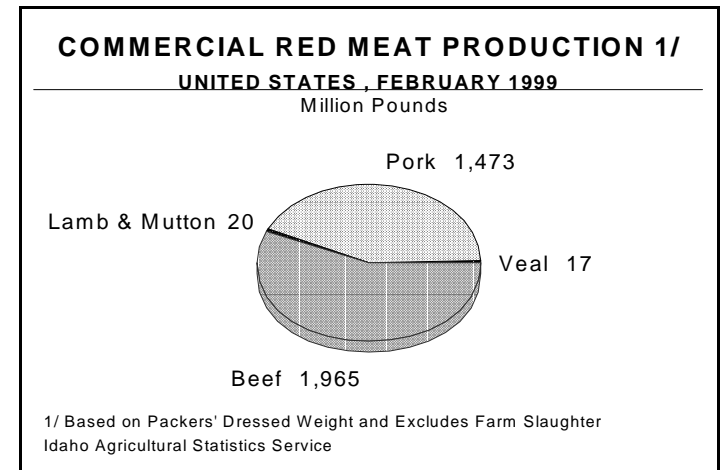
1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## Idaho Red Meat Production Up 5 Percent

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for February 1999 totaled 39.8 million pounds, up 5 percent from last year. February production showed a 13 percent decrease from January's 45.7 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January - February 1999 period totaled 85.5 million pounds, down 1 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Red meat production for the United States totaled 3.54 billion pounds in February, up 2 percent from the 3.48 billion pounds produced in February 1998 and slightly higher than the previous record high for February set in 1996. Beef production at 2.00 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 1 percent from 1998. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from the previous year, at 1,221 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.50 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous record high for February set last year. Hog kill totaled 7.90 million head, 3 percent above 1998. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 259 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 20.0 million pounds, was down 4 percent from the previous record low for February set in 1979, 1997, and 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 299 thousand head, 3 percent below last year. The

average live weight was 135 pounds, down 2 pounds from February a year ago. January - February red meat production was 7.4 billion pounds, 1 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 1 percent higher than last year, veal was down 23 percent, pork was up 1 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 9 percent.



### Commercial Red Meat Production, Selected States and United States <sup>1/</sup>

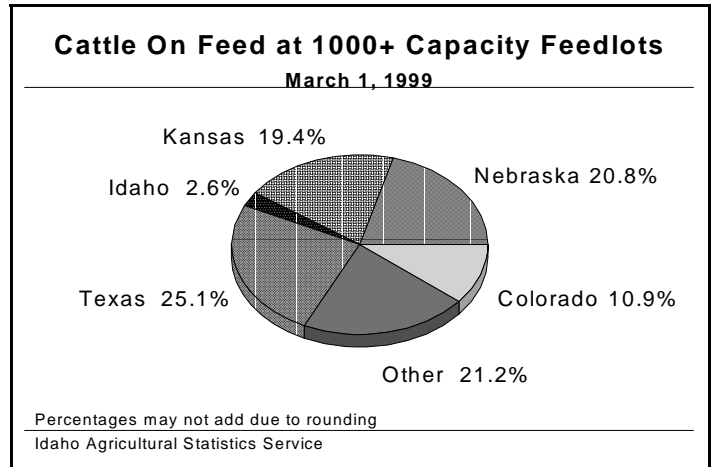
State	February 1998	January 1999	February 1999	February 1999 As Percent Of <sup>2/</sup>	
				February 1998	January 1999
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
California	79.4	89.1	80.9	102	91
Colorado	151.1	185.8	171.1	113	92
<b>IDAHO</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>45.7</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>87</b>
Illinois	188.8	213.1	200.3	106	94
Iowa	469.8	527.9	498.0	106	94
Kansas	452.3	*498.2	461.9	102	93
Minnesota	169.5	173.5	159.7	94	92
Montana	1.1	1.5	1.3	114	85
Nebraska	521.9	580.8	531.8	102	92
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	106	88
Oklahoma	62.5	77.2	68.6	110	89
Oregon	3.1	3.1	3.1	101	101
South Dakota	78.5	86.8	82.9	106	96
Texas	363.4	407.9	361.6	100	89
Utah	33.6	39.4	37.1	110	94
Washington	51.4	49.2	51.1	99	104
Wyoming	0.4	0.6	0.5	125	81
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>3,476.2</b>	<b>*3,832.3</b>	<b>3,535.3</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>92</b>

\* Revised. 1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. 2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.

## Cattle on Feed Up 2 Percent

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on March 1, 1999 totaled 275,000 head, up 2 percent from the March 1, 1998 inventory. The inventory was also up 2 percent from the number on hand as of February 1, 1999. Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during February totaled 57,000 head, up 9,000 head from February 1998 placements. Marketings during February totaled 45,000 head, up 1,000 head from February 1998 marketings.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States from feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.40 million head on March 1, 1999, up slightly from March 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.79 million, 20 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.72 million. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 333,000, 600-699 pounds were 492,000, 700-799 pounds were 596,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 367,000. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.82 million, 1 percent below 1998 but 1 percent above 1997. Other disappearance totaled 65,000 during February, 6 percent below 1998.



## Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots<sup>1/</sup>

State	March 1, 1998	February 1, 1999	March 1, 1999		
			Number	As % of 1998	As % of Prev. Mo.
		---1,000 Head---		---Percent---	
Arizona	220	202	203	92	100
California	375	385	385	103	100
Colorado	1,030	1,140	1,130	110	99
<b>IDAHO</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>102</b>
Iowa	350	350	350	100	100
Kansas	2,120	2,020	2,020	95	100
Nebraska	2,120	2,150	2,160	102	100
New Mexico	108	113	107	99	95
Oklahoma	375	385	365	97	95
South Dakota	173	184	184	106	100
Texas	2,620	2,660	2,610	100	98
Washington	175	195	181	103	93
Other States	440	445	430	98	97
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>10,376</b>	<b>10,499</b>	<b>10,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

## Frozen Potato Stocks Up 3 Percent

Frozen stocks of french fries in the United States on February 28, 1999, totaled 1.005 billion pounds, an increase of 5% from January 31, 1999, and down 1% from February 28, 1998. Other frozen potatoes, at 267.8 million pounds, increased 3 percent from January stocks and were up 23 percent from last year.

United States stocks of butter on February 28, 1999, totaled 93.3 million pounds, up 53 percent from the end of the previous month and up 111 percent from February 28, 1998. Of this 93.3 million pounds, the government owned 908,000 pounds. Stocks of total American cheese totaled 402.1 million pounds, up 3 percent from January 31, 1999, but down 2 percent from February 28, 1998. The government owned 36,000 pounds of the American cheese stocks.

Commodity	Feb. 28, 1998	Jan. 31, 1999	Feb. 28, 1999	1999 1998
	1,000 Pounds		Percent	
<b>POTATOES:</b>				
French Fries	1,018,665	961,590	1,004,946	99
Other Frozen	217,058	259,592	267,785	123
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,235,723</b>	<b>1,221,182</b>	<b>1,272,731</b>	<b>103</b>
<b>DAIRY</b>				
Butter	44,199	60,849	93,301	211
(Gov't Owned)	127	247	908	715
American Cheese	410,717	390,814	402,073	98
(Gov't Owned)	180	30	36	20

## Potato Stocks

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers and processors in Idaho on March 1 totaled 67,500,000 cwt., 2,000,000 cwt. less than on hand March 1, 1998. Disappearance, at 72,150,000 cwt., is up from last year's 70,814,000 cwt. but below 1996's 72,800,000 cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest Counties totaled 4,300,000 cwt., below last year's 5,500,000 cwt. The Other Counties' stocks, at 63,200,000 cwt., was 800,000 cwt. below the amount stored on March 1, 1998.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the March 1, 1999 Idaho Potato Stocks estimate is 6.8 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 67.5 million cwt. will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 6.8 percent or 4.6 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence interval) that the difference will not exceed 11.7 percent or approximately 7.9 million cwt.

### *Production And Total Stocks Of Fall Potatoes Held By Growers, Processors And Local Dealers On March 1, 1998 And March 1, 1999*

STATE	CROP OF 1997			CROP OF 1998		
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS MARCH 1, 1998	MARCH 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS MARCH 1, 1999	MARCH 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION
	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>		<i>Percent</i>
California	4,200	1,800	43	3,708	1,600	43
Colorado	24,993	12,800	51	25,360	11,800	47
Idaho	140,314	69,500	50	139,650	67,500	48
Maine	19,080	10,300	54	18,060	8,450	47
Michigan	14,250	3,800	27	14,725	3,900	26
Minnesota	20,440	8,800	43	21,170	8,900	42
Montana	3,328	2,350	71	3,180	2,650	83
Nebraska <sup>1/</sup>	7,761	2,430		8,175	2,500	
New York	7,150	800	11	7,290	900	12
N. Dakota	22,000	9,300	42	28,670	11,800	41
Ohio <sup>1/</sup>	1,170			1,200		
Oregon	27,319	13,000	48	26,229	13,000	50
Pennsylvania	3,173	890	28	3,360	600	18
Washington	88,160	29,500	33	93,225	29,500	32
Wisconsin	30,175	10,600	35	30,895	11,000	36
15 STATE TOTAL	413,513	175,870	43	424,897	174,100	41

<sup>1/</sup> Combined to prevent disclosure of individual operations.